

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 EB-07 AID-05 HEW-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /076 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JWASHBURN:EK

APPROVED BY IO:RBLAKE

NEA/IAI:WCLUVERIUS

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O R 190025Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061172

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, JO, XF

SUBJECT: UNRWA FINANCING

REF: A) AMMAN 1735; B) AMMAN 1759; C) BEIRUT 3347

1. FOR AMMAN:

A. DEPT HAS ALREADY BEGUN PROCESS OF REQUESTING 15 PER
CENT INCREASE IN OUR FY 1976 CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA FOR
TOTAL OF DOLS 26.6 MILLION. THIS COMPARES WITH 15.5 PER
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CENT INCREASE REPRESENTED BY DOLS. 150 MILLION UNRWA BUDGET

IN 1976 COMPARED TO 1975 DOLS. 130 MILLION BUDGET REPORTED
REF A. (FYI. AS GENERAL MATTER DEPT PREFERS NOT MAKE
PLEDGES TIED TO SIZE OF BUDGETS OF VOLUNTARILY SUPPORTED
UN AGENCIES. THIS BOTH DISCOURAGES CAREFUL FINANCIAL
PRACTICES BY AGENCY CONCERNED AND PROVOKES STRONG
CRITICISM FROM CONGRESS WHICH BELIEVES SUCH PLEDGES TEND
PRE-EMPT ITS PROPER CONSTITUTIONAL FUNCTION. END FYI)

B. USG HAS LONG SUPPORTED CONCEPT OF RELIEVING
FINANCIAL PRESSURE ON UNRWA BY CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHER UN
AGENCIES WHICH WORK WITH UNRWA IN SERVING PALESTINIAN
REFUGEES. WHO IS OTHER MAJOR SUCH AGENCY IN ADDITION TO
UNESCO. WE WELCOME STEPS RIFAI TAKING TO INDUCE OTHER ARAB
GOVERNMENTS TO INCREASE CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNRWA DIRECTLY OR
INDIRECTLY AND WILL BE GLAD SUPPORT THESE AS MAY BE
DESIRABLE AND APPROPRIATE.

C. FYI. RENNIE'S PURPOSE IN CALLING UNRWA AD COM
MEETING MARCH 21, AS INDICATED BY HIS MEMO ON UNRWA'S
DEFICIT (REF C BEING REPEATED AMMAN), IS TO PUT PRESSURE
ON MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY ARAB COUNTRIES, TO OBTAIN EXTRA
FUNDS MEET AGENCY'S FINANCIAL CRISIS. WE HAVE CLEAR
INTEREST IN SUPPORTING HIS DOING SO, BOTH BECAUSE OF
UNRWA'S OVERALL IMPORTANCE, AND IN LIGHT OF NEED TO
DEMONSTRATE RESPONSE BY OTHER COUNTRIES TO OUR RECENT
SPECIAL DOLS. 10 MILLION CONTRIBUTION TO UNRWA. FURTHER-
MORE, WE MUST SUPPORT PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION (THAT
OTHER COUNTRIES ARE DOING FAIR SHARE) REQUIRED TO OBTAIN
ADDITIONAL DOLS. 6 MILLION SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION EAR-
MARKED FOR UNRWA IN FY 1975 FOREIGN AID LEGISLATION. END
FYI. HOWEVER, WE RECOGNIZE CRITICAL PROBLEMS GOJ WILL
FACE AS RESULT REDUCTIONS IN UNRWA SERVICES AND WOULD BE
WILLING SUPPORT DELAY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF REDUCTIONS TO
MAY 1 IF RENNIE IN FACT BELIEVES THIS IS POSSIBLE, DESPITE
APPARENTLY CONTRARY POSITION IN HIS MEMO (REF C,
PARAS 5, 8).

D. FOREGOING, WITH EXCEPTION OF FYI PARTS, MAY BE
CONVEYED TO RIFAI AS APPROPRIATE.

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2. FOR BEIRUT: EMBASSY SHOULD ASCERTAIN PRIVATELY
RENNIE'S VIEWS ON DELAYING REDUCTIONS TO MAY 1 IN LIGHT
OF JORDANIAN CONCERN REF A. IF HE CONCURS USDEL AD COM
MAY SUPPORT JORDANIAN REQUEST FOR SUCH DELAY AS
APPROPRIATE AND TELL JORDANIAN AD COM REP IN ADVANCE THAT
HE PREPARED TO DO SO. IF RENNIE DOES NOT AGREE, USD
SHOULD REMAIN SILENT ON SUBJECT. INGERSOLL

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